

*L. Zancey*

# AUGUSTA HISTORICAL BULLETIN



AUGUSTA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 19

FALL 1983

NUMBER 2

# AUGUSTA HISTORICAL BULLETIN

Published by the  
AUGUSTA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Founded 1964  
Post Office Box 686  
Staunton, Virginia 24401



VOLUME 19

FALL 1983

NUMBER 2

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550 Copies printed by  
McCLURE PRINTING COMPANY, INC  
Verona, Virginia

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The forthcoming publication in November of 1983 of a new history of Augusta County will be announced to the members this summer in advance notices. If you know of persons interested in this new book, please send names and addresses to the society.

Copies of this issue to all members

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A purpose of the Augusta County Historical Society is to publish *Augusta Historical Bulletin* to be sent without charge to all members. Single issues are available at \$3.00 per copy.

The membership of the society is composed of annual and life members who pay the following dues:

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Life Membership .....	\$125.00
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# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH\*

By

The Reverend Harry G. Coiner  
Edgar R. Coiner

The history of many congregations can be understood better when the influence of the men who served as Pastors is analyzed. This is especially true of the congregation known today as Bethany-Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church.

The first entry in the records of the first Lutheran congregation in Augusta County records the baptism of Margaret Barger in 1772. In 1794 a building was constructed as the worship shelter for the group then comprising the congregation. Because the Rev. Adolph Spindler had served the congregation beginning in 1788 the building was called "Spindler's Meeting House." Except for an absence of three years, Pastor Spindler served the congregation until 1800.

In the years following Pastor Spindler's pastorate the length of service of the men who served the congregation was not long and we do not read of any unusual activity until the Rev. Ambrose Henkel came in 1824. He served until 1829 and again from 1833 to 1837. He was a son of Paul Henkel and as a member of the Henkel family participated in the translation and printing of many of the religious writings which had originated during the German Reformation. It is quite evident that Pastor Henkel fostered and nurtured the desire of the people of the congregation to learn the confessional basis of their denomination and the tenets of their faith. Many of the books produced by the Henkel Press can be found today in the homes of some of the members of Bethany-Trinity—handed down by former generations and treasured by the current generation.

Longer tenure of Pastors began when the Rev. Jacob Killian came to "Spindler's Meeting House" in 1837. In 1838 "Spindler's Meeting House" was replaced by a brick building which was called "Koiner's Church." About 1854 the congregation built Bethlehem Church located south of Waynesboro at Ladd to accommodate members living in that area. Pastor Killian remained at "Koiner's Church" until 1865 when he resigned to become full time pastor of Bethlehem Church.

In 1866 the Rev. J. E. Seneker was installed as Pastor. He participated in the organization of the Concordia Synod at "Koiner's Church" in 1868. Pastor Seneker resigned in 1875, died in 1884 and is buried in Trinity Cemetery.

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\*Presented at Spring 1983 Meeting of Society

As the 19th century reached its last quarter the people worshipping at "Koiner's Church" had built in 1874 a church called Bethany, located some two miles north of Waynesboro, to accommodate members living in the area. The Rev. Frederick Kuegele was called as Pastor and arrived in 1879 to spend the remaining 37 years of his life serving the people worshipping at Bethany and Trinity. Immediately upon his installation he participated in the process of establishing a parochial school at Bethany Church to enable the children of the congregation and of the neighborhood to learn their secular ABCs and their Christian ABCs as a part of their basic education. In 1881 a new worship shelter called Trinity was dedicated and in 1885 a parochial school was established at the Trinity Church location.

During the middle years of his pastorate, Pastor Kuegele wrote and published seven volumes of "Country Sermons" and other devotional writings, some of which were published by the Augusta Publishing Company of Crimora, Va. His excellent grasp of theological concepts together with an incisive insight into human problems made his sermons models of content and organization. His "Country Sermons" were eagerly accepted in the middle west by Lutheran pastors who, at that time, were moving from sermons in German to sermons in English. He became President of the English Lutheran Conference in 1888, the first such English body in the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and served for eleven years. In 1903 Trinity Church was enlarged.

Pastor Kuegele died in 1916 and is buried in Trinity Cemetery.

After Pastor Kuegele's death the search for a new pastor brought the Rev. Edward J. Friedrich to Augusta County. He was a graduate of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo., and had served as assistant to his father at Immanuel Church, St. Charles, Mo. Soon after his installation as Pastor, the question of extensive repairs to Bethany Church had to be resolved. Since, at that time, more members of Bethany-Trinity lived in the immediate area of Bethany or in Waynesboro rather than in the Trinity area, Pastor Friedrich suggested that Bethany be sold and a new Bethany built in Waynesboro. The new Bethany was dedicated in 1925—a beautiful, small Gothic structure.

In 1923, Pastor Friedrich accepted a call to St. Paul's Church in Cleveland, Ohio, and in 1930 became Professor of Homiletics at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, serving in that capacity until 1940. After 1940 he served the church in many ways until his death in 1982.

The Rev. Herbert E. Plehn, a roommate of Rev. Friedrich at Concordia Seminary, accepted a call to Bethany-Trinity and was installed in January, 1924. He participated in the completion and dedication of Bethany Church and in the re-opening of Bethany School, closed for 3 years during the construction of the new Bethany Church. In 1927, he accepted a call to St. Matthew's Church in Rochester, N. Y.

In June 1929, the Rev. Karl H. Maier and his wife, Esther, arrived in Waynesboro, he to be installed as Pastor of Bethany-Trinity on July 7. He had received the B.D. and S.T.M. degrees from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri, and the M.A. degree in history from Washington University. He had not had previous parish experience, but brought training, enthusiasm, a love for people, and the willingness to fall in love with the Shenandoah Valley, which he never left. During his pastorate he devoted a major part of his activities nurturing Bethany School and he is responsible for maintaining the original purpose of the school and developing its present basic character. In 1939 three rooms were added to Bethany Church for school use and in 1952 the present educational building was completed.

Pastor Maier was a pioneer in audio-visual techniques in the school's curriculum and in the church's program. The use of audio-visual materials in the agencies of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and in the parochial schools of the Southeastern District of the Synod was largely the result of his pioneering efforts.

His ministry can be characterized in one sentence, "He related to people, he was a good preacher and teacher, he served the church at large in many ways, and took leadership in updating the ongoing functional life of the congregation."

His entire professional life was spent at Bethany-Trinity. He died in 1967 and is buried in Trinity Cemetery.

The ministry of these 8 men, Adolph Spindler, Ambrose Henkel, J. Killian, J. E. Seneker, Frederick Kuegele, Edward J. Friedrich, Herbert E. Plehn, and Karl H. Maier, whose combined tenure spanned some 68 percent of the congregation's history, can be said to be responsible for nurturing this congregation's Lutheran confessionality which began in Augusta County in 1772 with the baptism of Margaret Barger.

The information in this historical sketch is drawn mainly from the following sources:

A HISTORICAL SKETCH OF MICHAEL KEINADT AND MARGARET DILLER, The History and Genealogy of Their Numerous Posterity in the American States up to the year 1893. Prepared by a Committee Appointed for That Purpose by the "Michael Koiner Memorial Association" (Staunton, Virginia: Stonebruner and Prufer, Publishers, 1893), pp. 21, 22.

Baepler, Walter S., A CENTURY OF GRACE, Missouri Synod 1847-1947 (St. Louis, Mo.: Concordia Publishing House, 1947) pp. 194-196, 259.

Eisenberg, William Edward, THE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN VIRGINIA, 1717-1962 (Lynchburg, Virginia: J. P. Bell, Inc., 1967), pp. 414-416.

Jensson, J. C., AMERICAN LUTHERAN BIOGRAPHIES (Milwaukee, Wis., Press of A. Houtkamp and Son, 1890) pp. 335-336.

THE LUTHERAN WITNESS, St. Louis, Mo., 3/21/89 Vol. 7, No. 20, pp. 156-157.

TWO HUNDRED YEARS, 1772-1972, A History of Bethany-Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Waynesboro, Va.

The Rev. Harry G. Coiner, in his talk to the Augusta County Historical Society on May 15, 1983, prepared and utilized the notes from which the information for this sketch was prepared for publication.

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Trinity Lutheran Church. On Route 865, 1 mile North of Route 612 intersection. At right of picture large globular marker honors the Koiner family. Picture dated 8-31-1941.

# TRINITY LUTHERAN CEMETERY ITS PRESERVATION, CARE, AND HISTORY\*

By  
Mrs. Karl H. Maier

Ed Coiner, knowing my interest in and involvement with this cemetery, asked me to tell you about the clean up job, which I assured him I could do with just two words—HARD WORK, but somehow with the passage of time, Ed added 3 more fields to cover, PRESERVATION, CARE and HISTORY, and if this talk goes even 30 seconds beyond the time limit, I fear he's arranged for all the stones to lean again and turn black.

FIRST, why the clean up? Through the years attention has been given the cemetery, new land purchased when necessary, etc. Ed's father was involved with the cemetery all his life; and Everett Olinger for 13 years following his retirement from DuPont, took loving care of it until his health failed.

But we had no plat, no plotted map or chart of the older section, so at the suggestion of my friend Margaret Wilshusen, we decided to make a record of the older stones, but found most of them too difficult to read because of the accumulation of over 200 years of algae, fungus, lichen and moss. Also many older stones had sunk into the ground, or were leaning.

We dug up some of the old stones, placed them flat on the ground, dusted them with white powder (or flour) which settled into the lettering, making a few of them easier to decipher. Then we secured the help of workers from a monument company, who came intermittently, put the stones into a cement base with a 4" margin around each stone, to protect from further leaning and sinking, and from abuse by the lawn mower. Many other stones were straightened with professional help. This was done with the approval of the cemetery committee.

Before we started on this restoration project, we wrote to the National Trust for Historic Preservation, The National Cemetery Association, The United States Heritage Conservation Service, The Association for Gravestone Studies, and a number of others, but our best help came from the Granite Association of Georgia and the Granite Association in Vermont, who also sent us information on MARBLE.

\*Presented to the Augusta County Historical Society assembled at Trinity Lutheran Church, Crimora, Virginia, May 15, 1983

I'll summarize as briefly as I can what we learned:

- 1) The stone companies specifically caution against sandblasting, and emphasize to NEVER sandblast marble.
- 2) The companies strongly recommend that each purchaser of a monument maintain some common-sense preventive maintenance on his own. (They did mention that some cemeteries with perpetual care are adding regular cleaning as part of their service.)
- 3) The companies further suggest that a monument be thoroughly scrubbed several times a year with water and a household detergent. My own thought is that in this area which isn't the most polluted in the world, cleaning just every two or three years would be sufficient.
- 4) For the more severely stained stones, the companies suggested the use of some forms of acid, but since I live under Murphy's Law, the use of acid was promptly REJECTED. Our procedure was to brush thoroughly, rinse, soak with a solution of ammonia and detergent, repeating as often as necessary. Clorox is helpful on marble. Most stones respond, others may have been stained for too many years.

The companies also gave us information on the CAUSES of stains.

- #1 cause of stains is trees which should never be near stones, as they cause trouble both above and under ground. Our men cut down two trees.
- #2 cause is birds—you'll be relieved to know they did NOT suggest that we try to shoot all the birds. No solution was offered. Wrapping the islands near Florida with pink plastic has made me wonder whether we'd become famous, or infamous, if we wrapped the cemetery in plastic.
- #3 cause is algae, fungus, lichen and moss which grow like a cancer outwardly on the stone, working their way into the tiniest fissures or cracks, causing large chips to pop off. Regular cleaning is the answer to that, AND selecting a highly polished monument provides fewer fissures for the problems to find their way into.

NOW—I'd like to give you a tiny capsule of history:

Trinity Cemetery is a beautifully located, unique, and historic spot, and the view of the mountains is an ever-changing but constant reminder of the 121st Psalm: "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, whence . . ."

Our history of our cemetery records that it was used as such from 1730 or 1740, which takes us back 250 years, and we remember that George Washington was born in 1732, and Thomas Jefferson had not yet been born. The same history tells us the land was originally part of the Jacob Slagle farm and was possibly the first cemetery of the whole section of South River.

Everyone will agree that the first thing to catch the eye is the large monument, erected in 1892 to honor Michael and Margaret Diller

Keinadt. It is mind-boggling to know that the family reunion was attended by 2,000 Koiners from all parts of the country. The Staunton newspaper account reads: "Upon the long tables aggregating 300 feet, and after the multitude had feasted to fulness, there was left enough of choice food to supply a hungry regiment, and yet there were boxes and baskets of supplies in waiting to supply more than the 2,000 persons present." Can you imagine what it must have been like—10 or 15 times as many people present that day as there are today—and all the horses, carriages, wagons, and food!

For those of you who may have not been able to tour the cemetery: Starting at this end, you see the triangle in the N. E. corner which looks bare, but is filled with graves but no headstones remain. We're told that the first 100 graves inside the fence were marked only with flat stones with no dates on them.

We know, too, that slaves attended Trinity Church, and slaves are buried in this cemetery.

Moving up closer from the oldest corner, we find some of the oldest remaining STONES; four of them are graves of the IMBODENS, related on Margaret Diller Keinadt's (the maternal) side of the family. All of these old stones were difficult to read and have been identified with bronze markers.

Farther down that row of old stones, we found the original GEORGE SLAGLE stone. He was a drummer in the American Revolution and some years ago the D.A.R. wanted to honor his grave with a marker but his grave couldn't be found, so the D.A.R. marker was put near the IMBODENS. While working, we found the original stone, broken and buried in the ground. We dug it up, had it mended, set in cement and moved the D.A.R. marker next to it. Quite illegible: "In memory of GEORGE SLA-GLE." A Keinadt daughter, Catharine, married a George Slagle.

If you go in this gate, halfway through the cemetery on the left, are four stakes in the ground with green plastic ribbon on them (just for today) with rope outlining the location of our first LOG Church measuring 36x40', known as "Spindle's Meeting House," as Rev. Spindle was the first Pastor. We think this LOG church was built about the year 1796, 3 years before George Washington died at Mount Vernon. Some facts would indicate that the church might have been built earlier. Michael Keinadt was 71 years old at the time and made the nails.

That log church stood in the cemetery a little over 40 years, through 9 presidencies and was replaced by a BRICK church of the exact same size on the exact same spot.

One of the ministers who served in that brick church was Pastor Seneker (1866-1875) and he had married Sarah Coiner, the great-

granddaughter of Michael and Margaret Diller Keinadt. In his memory the congregation erected the marble obelisk (the tall monument on the left side of the road), and it marks the location of the pulpit in the first log church.

Now turning to the West side of the road, you will see another obelisk, on the resting place of Pastor Frederick Kuegele who served here for 36 years and in his memory the congregation erected the obelisk and this memorial window above the altar in this church.

Continuing south on the same West side, you come to the grave of Dr. Oscar Kreinheder, president of Valparaiso Lutheran University in Valparaiso, Indiana, 1930-1939, who married Hannah Coiner, an aunt of the Coiner brothers here today, Gordon, Ed, and Lewis.

Farther down, again on the East side, is my husband's grave, marked by the large marble cross. When we came in 1929 as bride and groom, we both thought a 36-year pastorate was phenomenal, and then Karl stayed for 37 years, declining opportunities to go to his hometown, Boston, Mass., my hometown St. Louis, Long Island, N. Y., Pennsylvania, Baltimore, North Carolina, etc., serving his congregation, District, and Synod in a number of ways. In his memory a "Karl H. Maier Memorial Scholarship Fund" was established by the congregation.

You may have noticed the FLAGS. There are five men buried here who served in the American Revolutionary War. *Jacob Barger*, who was here long before the Keinadts arrived and was known to refer to them as the newcomers, served under the immediate command of General George Washington. The stone is in excellent shape for its age, is the original, all inscribed in German, on the N.E. side and close to the Koiner monument. On the back of the stone is a lovely example of *Pennsylvania Dutch Fraktur*.

Others in the Revolution were *George Adam* and *George Michael Koiner*, both of them sons of Michael and Margaret Diller Keinadt; both had served with the Pennsylvania troops before moving to Virginia. Then *George Slagle*, the drummer, mentioned before, and *Michael Keinadt* himself, the progenitor, listed by the D.A.R. for patriotic service in Pennsylvania. Those five flags are the plain red field and white canton.

Also we have three buried here who served in the War of 1812. *Philip*, the 12th child of Michael and Margaret Keinadt, plus *Jacob* and *Michael Coiner*, grandsons of the progenitors. Their graves are marked with flags with 13 stripes, a blue canton with 13 stars in a circle.

Twelve who served in the Civil War are identified with the Confederate Flag. Nine of those 12 are Coiners, grandsons of Casper Coiner and Margaret BARGER, and great-grandsons of the progenitors. Being a grandmother 10 times over, I'm grateful the grandparents were no longer alive to watch 9 go off to battle, probably to fight their own kin

from other parts of the country. Two *Leonards* served in the Civil War, as well as an ancestor of J. B. Yount, who was kind enough to bring with him a letter from that ancestor, on display today with the other items in the Narthex.

There are 8 or more who served in the 1st and 2nd World Wars marked by our present flag.

Believe me, a cemetery need not be just a sad place for a Christian. It can bring to mind many happy memories of precious loved ones and friends of many years. I was always reminded of Psalm 16, verse 6, "The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage." Inscriptions on the stones are inspiring and comforting, beautiful expressions to all passers-by of a deep faith in their Savior who died for them, and proclaiming the confidence of a joyful resurrection and reunion, and there are also touching testimonials of a deep appreciation for the love and care of parents.

If Ed won't throw a fit I'd like to mention the most unique stone—that of Emma A. Patterson who was just 22 years old when she died. The husband records his love and faith:

"Wife, thou art gone to the grave, we no longer behold thee,  
Nor tread the rough path of the world by thy side;  
He gave thee and took thee and soon will restore thee;  
Where death has no sting since the Savior has died.

MOTHER

"Sweet is the sleep my daughter takes, Till in Christ Jesus she awakes.  
Then will her happy soul rejoice—To hear her blessed Savior's voice.

SISTER

"Dearest sister, thou hast left us, Here thy loss we deeply feel.

But 'tis God that hath bereft us. He can all our sorrows heal."

Very close by is a small stone, which was very black, but when I began to clean it, it revealed the recumbent figure of a small boy, making me, for some reason, feel I was back in Egypt:

"Charley Stuart Koiner, died 1863, aged 1 yr., 10 mos. & 21 days.

"Lie here sweet babe and take thy rest. God called thee away, He thought it best. Farewell dear Stuart."

And there are many lovely ornamentations—the weeping willow, so popular in years back; also the cross, the crown, the open Bible, all symbols of faith and hope. *Unfortunately*, some of the lovely finials have disappeared—they must have been a challenge to vandals.

A TRUST FUND was established many years ago; is growing with time; to be used for the perpetual maintenance of this cemetery.

In January of this year I made a card index for myself and for the church when I'm gone—of each stone and all the wording on it.

From this card index an alphabetical listing of all the graves was made, a copy given to Katherine Bushman who is always so very helpful;

I think she has given a copy to this society; another copy was sent to the Virginia State Library in Richmond at Katherine's suggestion, and a copy was given to our Waynesboro Library. Hopefully, the time will come when there is a listing for every cemetery, saving *researchers* much time.

I do thank you for your attention and patience, and fervently hope this hasn't bored you out of your minds. Thank you.



# LUTHERANISM AND RELIGIOUS PLURALISM IN VIRGINIA'S SHENANDOAH VALLEY\*

By  
Jon Diefenthaler

Permit me to begin this presentation with a question. How many different church denominations do we have in America today? If we said at least several hundred, we would be correct. Now let me ask another less obvious question. Where in colonial America would we find a religious picture most comparable to this modern one? It wouldn't be New England, where Puritan Congregationalism held sway. Nor would it be the southern colonies of Georgia and the Carolinas. Rather, we would find a situation most comparable to today's in the great middle colony of Pennsylvania. Founded in 1681 by William Penn, this Quaker colony opened its doors almost immediately to groups of German and Scotch-Irish immigrants and gave them freedom to worship as they pleased. Here from the beginning, religious pluralism prevailed. The church, in other words, was not a single entity by law or in fact, but a mosaic of many parts, each enjoying the right to exist, to grow, and to contribute in its own way to the cause of the whole.

Something similar also developed in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley. Unlike their counterparts in Pennsylvania, Virginians were expected to conform to the Church of England. Support of this church was guaranteed by law; parishes were created and divided by the House of Burgesses; the governor had jurisdiction over many phases of church life, including the selection of the minister of any parish. Still, nonconformity flourished, and nowhere did religious pluralism become quite as apparent as the area west of the Blue Ridge. This truly amazing story is what I wish to briefly detail for us. In doing so, I shall highlight several Lutheran contributions to it and point to the perspective it casts on the endeavors of today's churches.

Even a casual reading of Virginia's early history will suggest how difficult it was to maintain the principle of religious uniformity first set down at Jamestown. From the beginning, there was no Anglican bishop in America to make the church's authority as visible as it might have been. In the 17th century, Catholics were run out of the colony, Quakers fined for practicing their faith, Presbyterians permitted to worship only after certification of time and place by the appropriate

county court. Perhaps the most nettlesome requirements even after the Toleration Act was enacted in England in 1689 and religious persecution became less popular, were the county parish tax and Anglican jurisdiction over all baptisms and marriages. Yet rigid enforcement of the law was almost impossible. Quite simply, the population of Virginia was too thinly spread over a vast space of territory. An Anglican parish might cover hundreds of square miles, and if its outlook fit the typical mold, it did very little in the way of proselytizing.

Equally potent were economic and political factors. England clearly recognized that if her colonies were to survive in the face of the twin threat of the Spanish to the south and the French to the north, immigrants of all kinds would need to be encouraged to come to America. And from all over Europe they did come—Scotch-Irish Presbyterians, German Lutherans and Reformed, Mennonites, Dunkers, Swenckfelders and Moravian Brethren. In Virginia, the policy adopted at Williamsburg was to settle the eastern base of the Blue Ridge and the Shenandoah Valley as a protection of the Tidewater against possible Indian attack. Hence in the mid 1720s, Germans from Pennsylvania, including Lutherans, Reformed, and Mennonites, were openly invited into the area. They came to share the land with numerous Scotch-Irish Presbyterians and with Quakers fewer in number. The Shenandoah was a new frontier that held out the possibility of a better living and wealth with the inevitable rise of land values. It was in fact the line of defense against hostile enemies, in exchange for which the freedom to gather and worship as they pleased became an unwritten promise made to all settlers willing to populate it.

In addition, the eighteenth century featured the Great Awakening. This wave of revivals that swept America beginning in the 1720s and 30s placed fresh emphasis on personal religious experience rather than traditional theologies. George Whitfield first visited Virginia near the end of 1739 and again in 1746 and 1754-1755. In each case, eager and expectant crowds awaited him. "Many have come," Whitfield noted in his journal, "forty or fifty miles, and a spirit of conviction and consolation seemed to go through the assemblies." At times, the Awakening turned into a wholesale revolt against authority. The moral and social laxity of the Anglican Church was assailed. Its preachers were branded as "unconverted" ministers who were preying upon the substance of their innocent parishioners while lulling them into a false sense of spiritual security. For this reason, historians have frequently perceived a strong connection between the Awakening and the American Revolution. They have tended to emphasize the violent conflicts that developed between the landed gentry of the Anglican Church and the aggressive "counterculture" formed by the evangelicals—namely the

\*Presented May 15, 1983, Spring Meeting of the society  
Dr. Diefenthaler is pastor of Bethany-Trinity Lutheran Church

Baptists, Methodists, and Presbyterians. Indeed these dissenters stressed the very same rights for which the War for Independence would be fought. The notion of equality, for instance, was reinforced by the evangelical determination to reach all classes and races, including the Negro slaves, with the gospel. Liberty, moreover, was more than an abstract ideal. For these dissenting evangelicals, the Anglican church personified the oppression from which they sought freedom.

Lutheran contributions to this history of the Shenandoah Valley have received considerably less attention. Yet they are not to be overlooked. Lutherans were among the Germans who migrated from Pennsylvania in the 1720s. They founded congregations in such places as Winchester, Strasburg, Woodstock, Timberville, New Market, Peaked Mountain, and Waynesboro. At times, practical necessity forced them to share the ownership and maintenance of facilities with the Reformed. It was also indifference to theological distinctions that led to the formation of these "union" churches. Economic frugality may have had something to do with it too. In any case, there was a measure of acceptance, at least in practice, of religious pluralism.

Nowhere is the Lutheran identification of religious freedom with American independence quite as poignantly illustrated as the Woodstock ministry of Peter Muhlenberg, son of the recognized patriarch of American Lutheranism, Henry Melchior Muhlenberg. Muhlenberg was ordained in both the Lutheran and the Anglican church. The latter took place in England at the hand of the Bishop of London in 1772. At Woodstock, Muhlenberg served congregations of both types. Because of his Anglican ordination, his ministerial acts as a Lutheran pastor were valid under Virginia law. Nevertheless, when the Revolution came, Muhlenberg left no doubt concerning his sympathies. Not only did he represent his county in the House of Burgesses, but he was also appointed to raise and command the Eighth Virginia Regiment. The story of his most dramatic gesture is variously told. To his Woodstock congregation he announced from the pulpit that there was a time for all things—a time to preach and a time to pray, but those times had passed away—that there was a time to fight, and that time had come now. Forthwith, he pronounced the benediction, put off the minister's gown covering his military uniform, descended from the pulpit, and ordered the drums at the church door to beat for recruits.

While he never returned to the pastoral ministry, Peter Muhlenberg in 1783 gave his black silk robe to Paul Henkel. Indeed, the mantle of Elijah fell on one who proved himself fully capable of assuming the role of a new Elisha. For if ever there was a Lutheran counterpart to George Whitfield or Samuel Davies or Shubal Stearns, it was Paul Henkel. His ministry spanned a period of time (1783-1825) well after

the Great Awakening had ended and somewhat prior to heating up of the revivals of the nineteenth century. Henkel did not depend upon emotion to bring about conversions. He devoted himself to the printed medium, writing prose and poetry in German and English, compiling hymnals and catechisms, publishing sermons. He helped establish the Henkel printery in New Market in 1806. His home also served as a school for ministerial candidates. There he personally trained his brothers and sons for the ministry. Yet for Henkel, the Christian faith was clearly a matter to which Lutherans needed to be persuaded to give their allegiance. Hence, he gave himself tirelessly to missionary activity—always traveling to bring the gospel to groups up and down the Shenandoah Valley, as well as North Carolina, Tennessee, Ohio, and Kentucky. Many congregations, including Bethany-Trinity Lutheran Church in Waynesboro, were at one time or another part of his charge.

So what is the perspective that these early developments cast upon the church of today? For one thing, here in the Shenandoah Valley we see a foreshadowing of our denominational system of churches. Even after the Reformation, Europeans found it difficult to accept the idea that congregations of different church orders might be located on opposite sides of the same crossroads or several miles apart from each other, much less equally share in the life of the one universal church. For them, there had to be religious uniformity, be it Catholic or Reformed or Lutheran, within a particular political jurisdiction. Here in America, however, they discovered that a plurality of religious groups could not only co-exist in freedom and mutual respect, but cooperate in reaching certain common goals. In theory at least, each denomination could view all the others not as false churches, but as distinctive members of the larger family of Christians.

Secondly, the pluralistic religious makeup of the Valley not only heightened the cause of religious liberty set forth in the Constitution of our republic, but served to guarantee its perpetuation. James Madison stated this more eloquently in *The Federalist Papers*. The more society was broken into numerous parts, interests, and classes of citizens, he argued, the less the rights of individuals or of the minority would be vulnerable to interested combinations of the majority. Similarly, the more churches there were, the less chance there would be of any one of them gaining a majority status. Freedom, he thought, could only lead to the proliferation of groups, none of which would ever gain sufficient strength to control the others.

Finally, in a pluralistic environment, churches are forced to "walk by faith and not by sight." Winning anybody's loyalty to Jesus Christ cannot involve coercion. The gospel alone becomes the foundation on

which Christianity is built. "A preacher," said Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, "must fight his way through with the sword of the Spirit alone and depend upon faith in the living God as His promises, if he wants to be a preacher and proclaim the truth in America." Peter Muhlenberg and Paul Henkel understood this too. This summer, the young people of Bethany-Trinity Lutheran are planning to hold what is called a "Planned Famine." They say that they are going to go without food for some thirty hours. The purpose of this is to put them in touch with some of the feelings of hungry people in our world. It is also an opportunity for the rest of the congregation to do something about this problem. Our youth will ask them to venture a pledge in their behalf. The money will then be channeled through the "World Vision" organization to the hungry. As a pastor, however, I do not have the power to force them to do anything at all. But I can tell them of Jesus Christ. I can tell them to remember how much he loves them, and that to procure their salvation, Jesus Christ died. The price was his life, and yet he gave it up for their sake and mine. Or they might tell me how their faith in Jesus Christ helped them through a troubled time in their life. For I know that whenever such sharing of the gospel takes place, we want to serve one another as God in Christ has served us. Our selfishness dies. We care about the hungry or anyone else in need. The battle for this kind of religious freedom still goes on. It is not a battle against an oppressive government or established church. It is a battle we must wage within ourselves. If Peter Muhlenberg could be in one of our pulpits, I don't know if he would have to tear off his minister's robe. But I am sure he would tell us that while there is a time for everything, now is the time to continue this fight!

## Augusta County Obituaries 1858

By Anne Covington Kidd

(Continued from Volume 19, Number 1)

SV preceding the date in parenthesis is the key to information found in *The Staunton Vindicator*.

On Wednesday, the 12th ult. . . . George ANDERSON, son of Capt. Alexander Anderson, of this county, in the 19th year of his age . . . . father is now absent on a tour through the Western States. (1 June 1858)

On the 12th inst., Mrs. Elizabeth BAR, wife of Jacob Bar, dec'd., in the 69th year of her age. (15 June 1858)

Junius M. BAYLOR, eldest son of our respected townsman, Col. George Baylor . . . bled to death . . . funeral sermon will be preached by Rev. Mr. Seiss, of the Lutheran Church. (SV 27 March 1858) At his residence, six miles west of Staunton, on Thursday the 25th ultimo, in the 25th year of his age. (SV 3 April 1858) There are some rather remarkable facts connected with the death of Mr. Junius M. Baylor . . . His grand uncle, Col. Martin BAYLOR, was killed in a mill, and his uncle, Mr. Andrew J. BAYLOR, was killed near the same spot where Junius lost his life . . . Junius M. Baylor was . . . named after Junius M. Fishburn, of Washington College . . . both born in village of Waynesboro. (31 March 1858)

At his residence, near New Hope, in this county, on Saturday the 3d inst. . . . Mr. James P. BEARD, in the 72d year of his age . . . kind husband, kind father. (20 July 1858)

On the 20th of February last, Mrs. Jane BEARD, consort of Wm. Beard, near Middlebrook, in this county, in the 69th year of her age . . . . A devoted parent, (14 April 1858)

On Monday, the 28th of December, several youths of our neighborhood went out along the Mill-dam of Mr. Samuel Cline, to . . . "Shoot Christmas," . . . Samuel BILLHIMER, son of Abraham Billhimer . . . at the explosion of . . . gun . . . (lost) the lower part of his hand . . . Monday . . . death . . . 16 years . . . Jan. 12th, 1858. (20 January 1858)

At Mt. Solon, on . . . the 28th ult., Mrs. Ann E. BLAKEMORE, wife of Mr. J. H. Blakemore, in the 26th year of her age. (6 January 1858)

At Mt. Solon, on . . . 11th of February . . . Miss Annie V. BLAKEMORE, in the 19th year of her age. (24 February 1858)

On Sunday evening last, Richard A. (BLEDSOE), son of Mr. Aaron E. Bledsoe, of this place, aged about one year. (13 July 1858)

Died, at his residence, in Staunton, on Wednesday, the 23d ult., John BRANDEBURG, Esq., in the 49th year of his age . . . born in Middletown, Maryland, but at an early age came to Virginia, and engaged actively in business.—For many years . . . a resident of this town . . . one of our leading Merchants. When the *pestilence* swept over . . . Norfolk and Portsmouth . . . being himself childless, he adopted two of the little unfortunates . . . leaves a . . . wife . . . member of the Presbyterian Church for nearly fifteen years. Tribute of Respect . . . (by) Board of Directors of the Bank of the Valley, in Virginia, at Staunton . . . a highly valued member.—(By) Council of the Town of Staunton . . . a member of this board, an Alderman of the Town, and an Overseer of the Board. (2 & 6 January 1858)

In Parkville, Mo., on the 10th of April . . . Mr. Ptolemy BRIGHTWELL, formerly of Staunton, and for many years a resident of Rockingham county. (28 April 1858) In this city on the 18th of April . . . aged 58 years . . . remains taken to Presbyterian Church . . . then taken to the family burying ground of his brother in the country . . . came from Staunton, Va., where he was a merchant. *Parkville* (Mo.,) *Courier*. (SV 8 May 1858)

In this place, on Friday night last, Mrs. S. A. BRISON. (3 August 1858) . . . July 30th. (SV 7 August 1858)

At the residence of her brother-in-law, Mr. L. Shaw, in Waynesboro', on Wednesday, the 28th ult., Elvira Angie (BROOKS), youngest daughter of Wm. and Elvira A. Brooks, aged 14 yrs., 2 mos. and 23 days. (10 August 1858)

On the 25th ult., near Greenville in this County, Col. John X. BROWN, aged 45 years . . . member of Bethel church for 25 years. (17 March 1858)

Mr. R. H. BUSHNELL, who shot himself at the American Hotel, in this place . . . died from the effects of the wound on Wednesday last. His remains were taken to the County of Rockingham. (19 October 1858) . . . Mr. Richard W. Bushnell . . . teacher of Washington City . . . native of Rockingham county, unmarried, and probably forty years of age . . . graduated at the University of Virginia . . . For a short time he had charge of the male Academy in this place . . . taught school in Richmond . . . member of the Episcopal Church. (5 October 1858)

On the 12th ult., Mrs. Rebecca CALE, wife of Mr. Jno. Cale, jr., of this county. (3 August 1858)

On Saturday last, at his residence in this county, Mr. George A. CALHOUN, (3 February 1859)

On the 6th inst., at the residence of her son, Col. A. W. Cameron, Mrs. Rachel P. CAMERON, in the 87th year of her age. (14 December 1858)

On Wednesday last at the Asylum, Dr. William CLARKE, son of Sam'l Clarke, dec'd. (27 January 1858)

On Saturday last . . . at the residence of Dr. Moorman, in this county, Mr. Geo. W. CRAWFORD. (20 July 1858)

Recently, at his residence in Mt. Sidney, Mr. Patrick CRIBBEN, a native of Ireland, and for many years a citizen of this county. (17 March 1858)

Rev. John Wesley CRONIN. The remains of this . . . minister of the Gospel rest in the Methodist Episcopal Church-yard in Staunton without a stone . . . to designate the spot . . . leave subscriptions with Mr. A. M. Simpson. (19 October 1858)

. . . Mrs. DOOLEY, wife of Mr. Edward Dooley, of this place, fell from steps . . . on Tuesday last. (2 November 1858)

A little child (\_\_\_\_\_ DOOMER) about six years old, of John Doomer, who resides near Augusta Springs, came to its death Saturday last. (SV 12 June 1858)

At her residence near Greenfield, Nelson county, on the 15th inst. . . Mrs. Lydia G. FELLER, wife of Mr. Joseph G. Feller, formerly of this county. (SV 24 July 1858)

. . . death of Professor Junius M. FISHBURN, of Washington College . . . in Lexington on Friday morning . . . born and reared in this county . . . sympathies are with "the widow and the fatherless." (31 March 1858) Tribute of Respect . . . the Graham P. Society of Washington College . . . Com. W. M. Brown, Isaac P. Heiskell, F. C. Wilson. Tribute of Respect . . . Students of Washington College . . . Com. J. H. Gilmore, M. H. Houston, H. T. Darnell. (7 April 1858)

On the 22d of October last, in Howard county, Mo., Mr. Daniel FISHER, aged 75 years, formerly a citizen of Augusta county. (16 November 1858)

At the Virginia Hotel, Staunton, on Saturday last, Harriet (FORREST), daughter of Purser Forrest, of the United States Navy, aged 8 years. (19 October 1858) . . . on the 16th inst., Harriet Irwin, daughter of Samuel Forrest. (SV 23 October 1858)

At the residence of her father, in this place on Sabbath evening, the 14th inst., Mary Ellen (FRETWELL), daughter of William and Sarah Fretwell, aged 6 years and 7 months. (30 November 1858)

On the night of the 8th inst., Mr. Philander GAMBLE, in his 58th year . . . connected . . . with the Presbyterian Church. (19 May 1858)

Near New Hope, on the 23d of May last, Mrs. Eliza GARBBER, wife of Mr. Martin Garber, in the 23d year of her age . . . But a short time ago she had snatched from her embrace by the chilling hand of Death, two smiling little infants. (8 June 1858)

. . . Miss Mary A. GARBBER, daughter of A. J. Garber, Esq., died . . . Wednesday evening last, at the residence of Col. Harman. (22 June 1858)

Fratricide. On Monday week, the 26th ult., two brothers . . . Davidson and Michael GEARHART, living in this county, near Middlebrook, engaged in an altercation which resulted in the death of the latter at the hands of the former . . . (Michael GEARHART) survived . . . till Wednesday morning . . . Dr. McChesney of Middlebrook and Dr. Waddell of Staunton attended upon him . . . Both of the brothers were married men . . . the prisoner was brought before Jno. L. Peyton, Esq., a Justice of the Peace . . . Messrs. Baylor & Baylor and H. M. Bell, Esq., appeared as counsel for the accused. (3 August 1858) . . . about six miles from Staunton . . . (witnesses) Geo. W. Greaver . . . Wm. G. Miller. (SV 31 July 1858)

On the 29th of August, Mrs. Sarah GILKESON, wife of Mr. Wm. Gilkeson, of this county, in the 74th year of her age. (21 September 1858)

. . . Dr. \_\_\_\_\_ GILLUM, was drowned near Greenville, in this county, on Monday evening last. (SV 23 January 1858)

John GLENDY departed this life, at his residence, in the county of Pulaski, on . . . 27th of December, 1857 . . . born on the 22d of February, 1800, in the county of Derry, Ireland. At a very tender age he was brought by his parents to the United States, who with him settled in the county of Augusta Virginia. (13 January 1858)

In this place, on Thursday morning last . . . Mr. A. W. GRAVES, (17 March 1858)

Departed this life, at Deerfield, February 10, 1858, Mrs. Elizabeth L. GREINER, wife of Henry Y. Greiner. (17 February 1858) On the 9th of Feb. . . in the 62d year of her age . . . member of the M. E. Church. (24 February 1858)

Died . . . in Cambridge on Sunday 25th of April, in this county, Mr. Samuel GROVE . . . at an advanced age . . . immigrated to this county many years ago from Augusta county, Va.—*Saline* (Mo.) *Herald*. (SV 15 May 1858)

On Saturday night last, Kenton Harper (HARMAN), eldest child of Col. W. H. Harman, of this place. (14 December 1858) On Sunday, the 12th instant, at the residence of his father, Col. Wm. H. Harman, in Staunton . . . aged 8 years and 14 days . . . the first born of his parents. (21 December 1858)

George Kenton HARPER, Esq., who for nearly forty years was the editor of the Franklin Repository, died at Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, on the 13th inst., aged 79 years. In the war of 1812 he served as an officer of infantry in two campaigns; first on the Canada lines and again

in the defense of Baltimore . . . father of Capt. K. Harper of this county. (27 January 1858)

On the 5th inst., Lucy (HAWPE), youngest daughter of Mr. Adam Hawpe, in the 13th year of her age. (21 December 1858) . . . Lucy Ann, daughter of Adam M. and Margaret Hawpe, aged 12 years, 1 month and 17 days . . . pupil at Christian's Creek School . . . Resolved, That we tender our sympathies to the parents, sisters and brothers . . . Resolved, That we will cherish the memory of Lucy and Albenia. (28 December 1858)

On the 4th of December, 1857, Margaret Jane Sarah Catharine (HEFNER), daughter of George and Elizabeth Virginia Hefner, aged 7 years 2 months and 12 days. (SV 23 January 1858)

Jesse HEISKELL, a little son of Porterfield A. Heiskell, Esqr., aged about twelve years . . . on Thursday last, at Jennings' Gap . . . died. (23 November 1858)

On Saturday last, Mrs. Ann Eliza HOOVER, wife of Mr. Henry L. Hoover, of West View. (28 April 1858)

Departed this life, at his residence in this county on the 11th of June, Mr. George HOUSEMAN, in the 66th year of his age . . . born in Baden, Germany, and emigrated to this country in 1818. (6 July 1858)

Departed this life, on the 23d ult., in the 34th year of her age, Mrs. Eliza IMBODEN, wife of John D. Imboden, Esq. . . . daughter of Col. Franklin McCue, of this county, and the last of three lovely sisters, over whom *the wind has passed and they are gone*—all within the short space of nine months . . . (member) of the Presbyterian Church. (6 January 1858)

On Sunday last, at the residence of Alexander Gardner, Esq., of Mint Spring, Mrs. Mary B. KBNNEY, widow of Robert Kenny, aged about 73 years. (13 July 1858) . . . Mrs. Mary B. KENNEY. (SV 10 July 1858)

On Wednesday night, July 28th, at the residence of Mr. David Koiner, near Waynesboro', Va., David KILLIAN, aged 8 years, son of Eli Killian, of Columbia, South Carolina. (SV 7 August 1858)

In this place, on the 24th ult., Ida Florence KISE, daughter of John A. and Margaret Kise, aged about 8 months. (14 April 1858)

On Wednesday night last, in this place, William H. K. H. KURTZ, aged five years, six months, and four days. (SV 9 October 1858)

In this place, on Saturday last, at the residence of her brother, Mr. E. M. Cushing, Mrs. Sarah KYLE, wife of Mr. Robert Kyle. (14 September 1858)

On the 24th ultimo, at the residence of Mr. Cyrus Snapp, of this county, Robert Newton (LAMB), son of Mr. Wm. Lamb, dec'd., and

Mrs. Eliza Lamb, in his 9th year. (3 August 1858) . . . 23<sup>th</sup> ultimo. (SV 7 August 1858)

Departed this life on Wednesday, the 27th ult., Mrs. Louisa LAMBERT, in the 38th year of her age . . . member of the United Brethren Church. (7 April 1858) . . . in the 28th year of her age. (14 April 1858)

John LARQUY, of Augusta co., died in Richmond on Friday night, the 2nd inst. . . . engaged in the Blue Ridge Tunnel . . . either as supervisor or contractor. (13 July 1858)

On the 2d day of March, little Mollie (LINDSEY), aged 2 years, 5 months and 14 days, and on the following day, Charlie (LINDSEY), aged 4 years, 5 months, and 21 days, only children of Thomas N. and Sarah C. Lindsey, of Churchville. (17 March 1858)

In this place, on 24th of Aug., Alexander (MAITLAND), infant son of Amanda and James Maitland, aged one year and six months. (31 August 1858)

Departed this life, on the 29th ult., Mrs. Martha C. (MAUZY), wife of Dr. Mauzy, and daughter of the late Robert Snapp, Esq. . . . 26th year of her age. (16 November 1858)

Near this place, on Tuesday last, Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_ McALEAR, wife of Mr. Patrick McAlear aged about 75 years . . . a native of the county of Tyrone, Ireland, but for many years a resident of this county. (26 May 1858)

Near New Hope, on the 5th inst. . . . John Isaac MYERS, aged 19 years, 9 months and 21 days. (14 December 1858)

At Mt. Solon, on Saturday, the 25th inst., Albert OBAUGH, son of Adam Obaugh, aged about twenty years. (28 September 1858)

On the 21st ult. . . . Mrs. Margaret PALMER, wife of Mr. George Palmer, of this county, in her 66th year. (10 February 1858)

On Sunday night, Arthur Davis PIPER, infant son of Mr. James A. Piper, of this place. (10 August 1858)

Departed this life, on Tuesday evening, the 30th day of Nov. . . . Mrs. Christiana PRICE, widow of the late Jacob Price . . . has left eight children, three sons and five daughters . . . died full of years (78) . . . united herself with the Evangelical Lutheran Church, but for a number of years held her membership in the German Reformed Church, of which her husband was a member . . . Her place is vacant in St. John's Church. (14 December 1858)

The last Fincastle Democrat contains a notice of the death of Mr. William RAINES . . . on Saturday morning the 23rd ult. . . . In his possession there was found . . . \$741.68, which was placed in the hands of Coroner Word . . . It is said that he has a son living in this county. (SV 6 November 1858)

On the 29th ult., at the residence of his son, near Deerfield, Va., Mr. Thomas RALSTON, in the 75th year of his age. (14 December 1858)

At Sangersville, in Augusta county, on Sunday, the 14th inst., Mr. William RITOFER, in the 84th year of his age . . . member of the Tunker Church. (30 November 1858)

Near Mt. Sidney, Va., Saturday evening, August 14, 1858, Mr. Wm. M. ROOTES, aged 51 years, 8 months and 16 days . . . member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church . . . (leaves) mother and a large family of children. (SV 21 August 1858)

. . . death of Mr. Jno. H. SEAYRES, the popular Superintendent of the American Hotel . . . killed himself by taking laudanum . . . (purchased) at the Drug Store of Dr. T. H. & J. C. Kinney . . . died on Tuesday morning . . . (former manager of the Columbian Hotel, at Richmond. (3 February 1858)

In this place, on Wednesday last, at the residence of her son-in-law, (Mr. Henry Bear), Nancy SEIFORD, aged upwards of 70 years. (31 March 1858)

On the \_\_\_\_\_ inst., near Mt. Torry Furnace, Mr. Matthew SHAW, aged 87 years. (20 July 1858) . . . in Augusta County . . . more than sixty years . . . member of the M. E. Church . . . The remains were deposited in the Church yard at Sherando. (SV 17 July 1858)

On the 11th of June last, at Green Valley, Bath Co., Va., the residence of her father, Mr. Samuel Lewis, Mrs. Ann P. SMITH. On her marriage, about a year before . . . she had gone to reside in Augusta Co. . . . member of the Episcopal Church in Staunton. (27 July 1858)

Departed this life, on Thursday morning, July 1st, Robert SNAPP, Esq., aged sixty-two years. (13 July 1858)

Mr. STOVER, editor of the *Lexington* (Mo.) *Expositor*, was shot and killed . . . on the 21st inst. by a professional gambler, named Clark . . . was raised in this place. (29 June 1858) . . . Mr. Lewis W. STOFER . . . last resting place in our Cemetery. *Lexington* (Mo.) *Expositor* . . . native of Staunton, and for a long time acted as foreman in this office. (SV 3 July 1858)

On the 12th inst., Margaret Ellen (STOVER), daughter of David W. and Elizabeth J. Stover, aged one year and seven months . . . only child. (17 August 1858)

On the 2d inst., in the 75th year of his age, at the residence of his son-in-law, Mr. Lewis, in Mason co., Va., Erasmus STRIBLING, Esq., of Staunton. The remains were brought to Staunton. (13 July 1858) . . . at the residence of his son-in-law, John S. Lewis, Esq. . . . aged seventy-four years, one month and two days . . . In early life . . . for several years Clerk of the old District Court of the Sweet Springs. In 1812 . . .



elected Clerk of the County Court of Augusta, (to which county he had removed in 1805) and held that office till . . . 1830. In 1846 he was appointed Clerk of the U. S. Court for the Western District of Va., which office he resigned in 1857 . . . was a Justice of the Peace for the County of Augusta, Clerk of the Corporation Court, and Mayor of . . . Staunton . . . For many years before his death, the cloud of an adverse fortune and the death of a beloved wife, had closed his hospitable door, and dispersed his large . . . family . . . when . . . it was proposed to organize a (Protestant Episcopal Church) . . . in . . . Staunton, he was amongst the foremost in his efforts and with his purse, (20 July 1858) . . . consigned to Thornrose Cemetery on Tuesday evening last. (SV 10 & 24 July 1858)

In Staunton, at the residence of her son, Hon. A. H. H. Stuart, on Saturday . . . the 23d inst., Mrs. Eleanor STUART, widow of the late Judge Archibald Stuart, upwards of ninety years of age. (26 October 1858) . . . on Sunday, October 24th . . . was the daughter of Col. Gerard Briscoe and his wife Margaret Baker . . . born in Montgomery county, Md., on the 2d day of September 1768, and was . . . in her 91st year . . . Col. Gerard Briscoe, whose family were originally from St. Mary's county, Md., removed from Montgomery county about . . . 1777 and settled on his estate . . . "Cloverdale," about three miles from Winchester, Va. Eleanor Briscoe was married in May, 1791, to Archibald Stuart, of Staunton, and from that time . . . resided in . . . Staunton. Judge Stuart died in . . . 1832. (2 November 1858)

. . . Mr. John B. SUPPLE . . . died at Fort Laramie, Kansas, on the 6th of September last. Mr. Supple learned the printing business in this place, Afterwards removed to Richmond, where he was engaged in the mercantile business, and about two years ago received an appointment from the government in connection with the "Artesian well" expedition . . . parents reside in Greenville, in this county. (19 October 1858)

On Sunday morning last . . . Mrs. Arabelle THOMPSON, wife of Judge L. P. Thompson, of this place. (26 May 1858)

. . . on Wednesday morning last, at the residence of Judge L. P. Thompson, in this place, Miss Rose THOMPSON, daughter of Dr. Thompson of Amherst . . . was a pupil of the Virginia Female Institute, and about sixteen years of age. (10 March 1858) . . . of Amherst. (SV 6 March 1858)

On Friday last, Eva Lisle (TROUT), infant daughter of N. K. Trout, Esq., of this place. (17 March 1858)

On Friday last, the 26th ult., Montgomery (WADDELL), eldest child of L. and N. E. Waddell . . . nearly five years of age. (3 March 1858)

On the 7th inst., Andrew Stuart (WATTS), infant child of Wm. H. Watts, aged seven months. (19 May 1858)

On the 4th inst., at his residence in Grant county, Ky., Louis WAYLAND, Esq., aged about 71 years . . . for many years a resident of Augusta county, Va. (17 February 1858)

Departed this life, at the residence of her son-in-law, Capt. G. Bernhart, Mrs. Hetty WEADE, consort of Henry Weade, of Augusta county . . . Sometime in '42 or '43, she attached herself to the Evangelical Lutheran Church . . . children. (SV 28 August 1858)

On Dec. 23, 1857, in the 28th year of her age, Louisa (WEADE), daughter of Henry and Hetty Weade . . . (member) the Lutheran Church. (27 January 1858)

In this place, on Monday, the 12th inst., Miss Mary WEIFORD, daughter of Mr. Anthony Weiford. (20 July 1858)

One day last week, at Augusta, Georgia, on her way to Staunton, Mrs. Margaret WHITE, wife of Rev. Robert White, of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and daughter of William W. Donaghe, Esq., of Staunton. (19 May 1858) In the city of Montgomery, on Friday, the 14th inst., (May), at the residence of Mr. John Whiting, Mrs. Margaret D. WHITE, wife of Rev. Robert B. White, D. D., Pastor of the Presbyterian Church in this city . . . (had planned to) re-visit her native village in Virginia . . . her dying hours were spent in the society of all who were dear to her. Father and mother, husband and children. *Tuscaloosa* (Ala.) *Monitor*. (15 June 1858)

Departed this life, on the 8th day of April, at the residence of her son, Robt. Whitlock . . . Mrs. Nancy WHITLOCK. (21 April 1858)

In this place, on Wednesday night last . . . Mrs. Mary WILEY, wife of Mr. James Wiley. (13 July 1858)

Miss Martha A. WILSON died at her mother's, four miles East of Paris, Mo., April the 29th, in the 26th year of her age. She emigrated from Virginia to Missouri, in the fall of 1856 . . . She united with the Presbyterian Church of Shemariah, Va., four years ago. (8 June 1858)

In this place, on Saturday morning last, Mrs. Ellen WISE, wife of Mr. John Wise, aged 52 years. For thirty-six years . . . member of the Presbyterian Church at Staunton . . . leaves a husband and large family of sons and daughters. (SV 8 May 1858)

Tribute of Respect. Spring Hill, January 9, 1858. At a regular meeting of Fountain Division No. 154 Sons of Temperance . . . Brother Samuel H. WRIGHT, who died on the 5th day of January, 1858, in the 22nd year of his age. Committee: James Murray, A. V. Tare, U. D. Poe. (13 January 1858)

# "DOING THE CARPENTRY AND JOINER'S WORK: A STUDY OF THE ACCOUNT BOOK OF JAMES RANKIN

By  
Ann McCleary

The documentation of early builders and joiners is perhaps the most difficult job in any survey of historic buildings.<sup>1</sup> While the names of the original owners can be traced through the deeds, the names of the builders are less easily retrieved. Public documentary records contain some references to builders, but these are difficult to find and involve extensive amounts of time. In rare examples, a builder's name can be found somewhere on or in a building itself, but further research is needed to confirm that the name inscribed is that of the builder and not of a visitor to the house. Occasionally, building contracts surface which include the builder's name, date, client, and a list of materials and services provided. While all of these records provide leads on individual builders, they also raise many additional questions. What other buildings in that area might that craftsman have worked on? What types of work were involved with his trade? Where did he learn his trade, and how did he acquire his ideas on building?

Account books for early builders prove to be one of the most helpful sources in addressing these questions about the nature of the builder's occupation. Often uncovered amidst boxes of old family papers, these account books are generally organized in a ledger form showing the name and date of the account, the various items in that account, and the credits and debits involved (Figure 1). One typical entry might read:

Dec. 9, 1830 Nimrod Showalter	
to 1 dining table	5.75
to 1 bread tray	.75
cr by a book	
cr by 2 bushels corn @ 3/	1.00
cr by 4 bushels oats @ .25	1.00 <sup>2</sup>

The value of account books is threefold. First, they usually list all of a person's accounts from agricultural trade to taxes, providing information on the total extent of the recorder's activities. Secondly, account

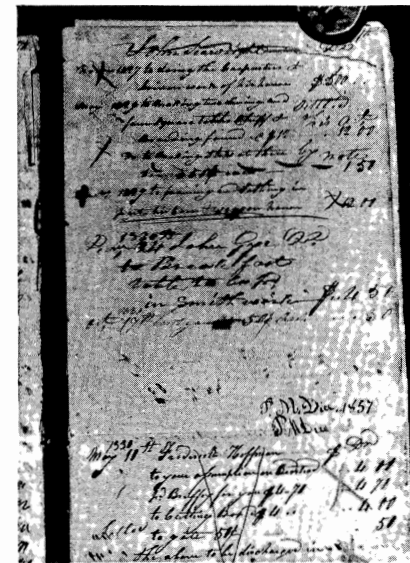


Figure 1: Page from James Rankin's account book with entry for John Seawright, Nov. 1827.



Figure 2: Semicircle table attributed to James Rankin.

books can establish a profile of the builder at one point in time as well as illustrate how his work changed over the years. Third, through account books we can often document specific examples of a builder's work, leading perhaps to attributions to other related buildings.

James Rankin's account book was the only such book uncovered in the course of the Augusta County architectural survey.<sup>3</sup> The book remains in the possession of Rankin's descendents, the Stout family, which still owns the Rankin house near Burkettown. Like many early Augusta County residents, Rankin came from a Scotch-Irish Presbyterian family. His great-grandparents, John and Margaret Rankin, moved from Ireland to Pennsylvania in 1740. Their son, Richard, had acquired land in Cumberland County and was living there during the time of the Revolution. Around 1779, Richard Rankin moved to Augusta County with his wife and ten children.<sup>4</sup> Rankin's will of 1788 directed that his home plantation of 1,300 acres "where Hugh Donaghe now lives, commonly called Widdow Watsai's place, on the mouth of Naked Creek," be divided between three of his son's including James's father, Isaac. Isaac and his wife Anne Seawright, whom he married in 1798, were living on a 450-acre tract from this farm in the early 19th century. Born June 15, 1794, their son James apparently spent most of his life



here on Naked Creek. He married Esther Beard on March 29, 1825, and they had one daughter, Hetty. After her death, he married Katrina Clark on February 14, 1837, and they continued to reside on the farm.

James had taken up the carpentry and joinery trades by February of 1823, when he began to keep his account book. According to family tradition, he worked in a small, frame shop building located on Naked Creek below his parents' home.<sup>5</sup> Entries for carpentry and joinery work dominated his account book for the first decade. As a joiner, defined in the 19th century as one whose occupation was to construct articles by joining or fitting pieces of wood, Rankin made a variety of furniture and wooden household goods. He includes only a few entries in 1823, but by 1828, he was apparently quite busy with his trades. His furniture ranged from fashionable pieces—corner cupboards (\$16), several china presses (\$15 to \$16), a secretary and bookcase (\$30.25), two clock-cases (\$12 and \$18), several dining tables (\$8.50), and bureaus (\$12)—to more utilitarian furniture—breakfast tables (\$4), bedsteads (\$3.50), cupboards (\$1), kitchen cupboards or presses (\$1.50 to \$5), children's cradles (\$2), writing desks (\$3.50), candle stands (\$2.50), kitchen tables (\$1.50), and chests (\$2). Only occasionally does Rankin refer to the style of the furniture, such as a "column bureau" or a "French post bedstead." One of the more descriptive entries is for a "wardrobe, poplar and painted." Rankin provided little description in his ledger



Figure 3: Work table attributed to James Rankin.



Figure 4: Splat-back chair attributed to James Rankin.



Figure 5: Breakfast table attributed to James Rankin in possession of Kay Stout Wolfe.



Figure 6: John Seawright House, 1827-9. Bay window to left added when that corner of the house collapsed.

besides the shape—a “square” table, the size—a “large” dining table, or the material—a walnut chest or poplar cradle (Figures 2-6).<sup>6</sup> Early 19th century joiners also made some of the smaller, utilitarian household items such as wooden buckets (37½¢), cutting boxes (\$4), and bread trays (50¢ to 75¢); and larger pieces like looms (\$10) as well as wagon trays (62½¢) and feed troughs (37½¢) for farm use. The construction of coffins also fell within the joiners’ trade during these years, and Rankin recorded many coffins for adults and children. Rankin did not always enumerate his work in his account book, listing instead “sundry items of joiners’ work at shop” or indicating that he repaid a debt by his joiners’ work.

Rankin was equally involved in the construction of buildings. His account book contains many entries during these years for “carpentry” work including framing buildings, weatherboarding, laying floors, lathing walls, jointing and rounding shingles, and roofing. Most of his carpentry work involved barns, other farm buildings from shops and stables to corn and wagon houses, and outbuildings such as kitchens or smokehouses. One of his most unusual projects was the construction of a boathouse and two “bath boxes,” each costing \$3. Rankin did not list much major construction work on houses. Instead, he did more repair and remodeling projects, from “fixing up,” “altering,” and “shelving” partitions to laying garrett floors and building steps. Again, some of the work was undescribed such as “sundry other works at your ell.” His account book also suggests that he sold construction materials and was paid for hauling the planks to the site.

The lighter and more ornamental work on houses again fell within the joiners’ trade, and Rankin made this distinction clear in his account book. He often noted making the interior trim or finish of the house such as the door and window frame and “fasings,” cellar doors, “50¢” doors, and sash strips for the windows. Like other 19th-century builders, Rankin supplied window sash as well.<sup>7</sup> Rankin lists only one entry for a mantelpiece, which he called a “column chimney piece.” Some of his entries for “sundry joiners work” may well have included mantelpieces, but these apparently occupied much less of his time.<sup>8</sup>

Fortunately, one of Rankin’s major projects, the “carpenter’s and joiner’s work” at John Seawright’s house, still survives to illustrate his work. Entered in his account book in November, 1827, Rankin’s work here cost \$500, considerably more than the total value of the average house at that time.<sup>9</sup> When completed, Seawright’s house became one of the most costly in the Burketown area at that time, being valued in the tax records at \$1,635.37 in 1829. This also proved to be the most expensive job in Rankin’s account book; in contrast, he charged only \$35 for the joiner’s work at William Thompson’s house. John Sea-

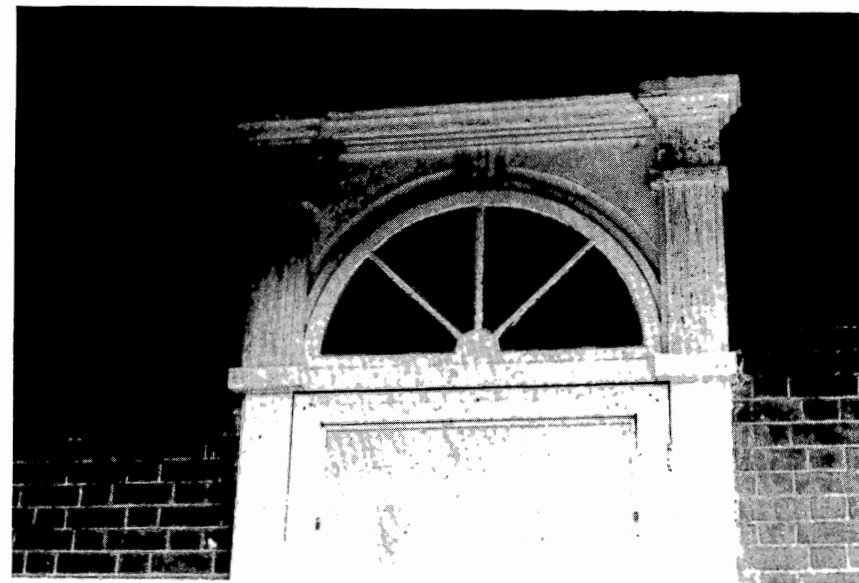


Figure 7: Fanlight over entrance, Seawright House. The present door frame was added in the 20th century over a segmental brick arch, still visible to each side.



Figure 8: Molded trim with carved corner blocks, central passage, Seawright House.

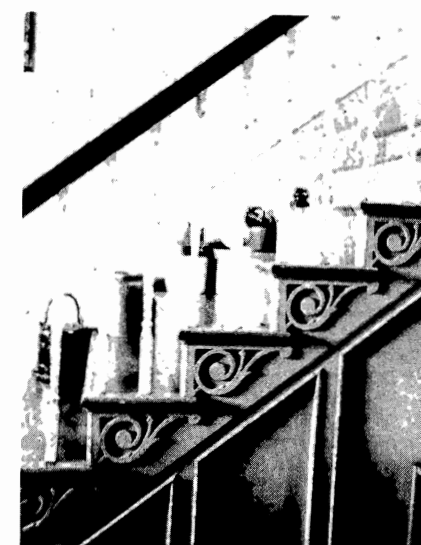


Figure 9: Scroll stair brackets and balusters, Seawright House.

wright may well have chosen Rankin to do the work on his house because of his family connections; Rankin's mother, Anne, was the daughter of John Seawright, Sr.

Seawright's house displays the Federal style of interior finish becoming popular in the Valley in the early 19th century. Rankin's joinery work probably included the segmental arched fanlight over the front door; the delicate, molded interior door and window trim with carved corner blocks; the paneled wainscotting; and the formal, double-run stairwell (Figures 7-9). The turned balusters and newels and carved stair brackets are very reminiscent of designs in popular builders' guides of the day, such as Owen Biddle's *Young Carpenter's Assistant*.<sup>10</sup> Whether Rankin himself had copies of any early builders' manuals is unclear, but some may have been included in his library of 91 volumes when he died in 1849. In any case, his joinery displays familiarity with these popular styles.

Richly embellished mantelpieces clearly highlight Rankin's work at the Seawright house and illustrate his superb joinery skills (Figures 10-11, 13). All retain Federal forms and decorative motifs such as urns, sunbursts, and reeded and carved molding bands. Yet Rankin apparently interpreted these popular forms and motifs in a very creative manner. His three-dimensional interpretation of these Federal compositions creates a very different feeling than the delicate and graceful pattern book designs from which these ideas were derived. The pilasters and urns are freestanding forms that appear to have been turned on a lathe, while the carved sunbursts on the frieze panels project out several inches from the frieze itself (Figure 12). A heavy sawn egg and dart molding and a band of small, split and turned urns decorate the top of the frieze, while an exaggerated, layered cornice finishes the entire design.

Rankin's work at the Seawright house actually displays what became a popular local style for mantelpieces in the Shenandoah Valley, and the attribution of this particular example to Rankin can provide an important insight into the development of local styles in the early 19th century. Previous scholarship has often attributed these robust, creative designs to the rich decorative traditions of the Germans who settled in the Valley. Many of these distinctive models do appear to be more concentrated in the northern half of the Valley where German settlement was thickest.<sup>11</sup> However, the Seawright mantel is clearly the work of a joiner of Scotch-Irish descent working for an English family. This example illustrates that although these robust forms may well have been rooted in the German traditions, they had become a popular local style admired and accepted by the Scotch-Irish and English settlers as well. By the early 19th century, then, settlers were choosing from the

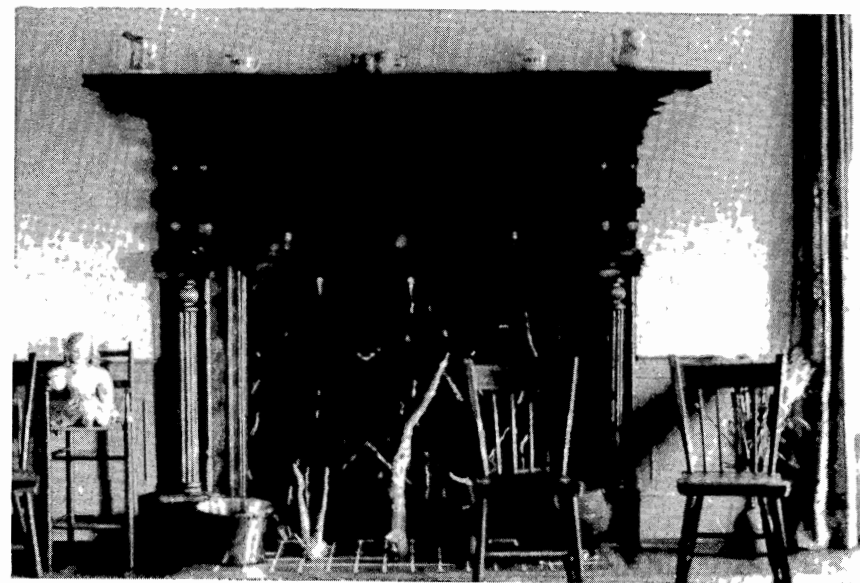


Figure 10: Mantel by Rankin, 1st floor, east room, Seawright House.

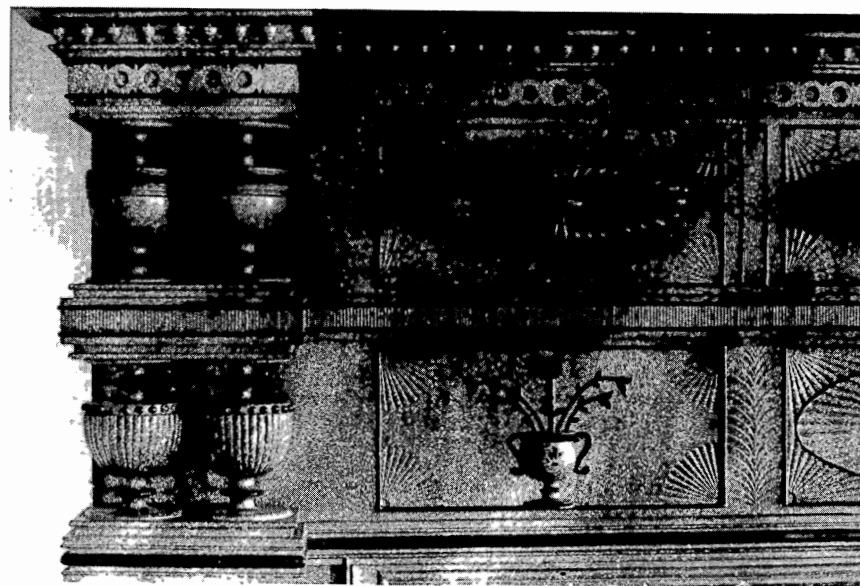


Figure 11: Seawright mantel, frieze detail.

vast cultural repertoires of these ethnic groups to create and develop distinctive forms and styles which best suited their tastes and needs. The Rankin account book suggests that future research might well move from an identification of so-called "pure" ethnic forms to an exploration of the interaction between these cultures.

Rankin's account book raises more questions than it answers in regard to his carpentry and joinery work after 1833. The absence of references to joinery projects after this date leads one to question whether he had abandoned the trade. Rankin does not mention any pieces of furniture finished or any joinery work, and he records only a few entries for carpentry, one being the construction of a barn for his father's estate in 1835. With his two sisters married and his brother George having moved to Ohio, Rankin apparently remained on the farm with his widowed mother and attended to the affairs of his father's farm and estate. By the mid 1830s, these agricultural pursuits seemed to dominate his account book. His entries focused on the sale of hay, grain, other agricultural products, and livestock. Unless he had a second account book for his carpentry work, which seems unlikely, Rankin had turned his energies to farming. The 1840 census, the first to list occupations, shows Rankin's occupation as agriculture.<sup>12</sup>

In 1840, after the death of his mother, Rankin bought the family farm of 450 acres with Michael Arehart. Two years later, Arehart and Rankin divided the farm, with Rankin acquiring a 184-acre tract. The tax records show \$1,000 worth of improvements on Rankin's tract at that time, suggesting the presence of a frame or log house along with the barn Rankin built in 1835 and perhaps a few other outbuildings.<sup>13</sup> Once Rankin had officially acquired the deed to this property in 1842, his account book shows that he began to sell brick to his neighbors. In the 1840s, these entries almost equal the number of those for agricultural accounts. Often Rankin sold only a few hundred, perhaps for a chimney, but once he sold as many as 4,000 bricks, enough for an entire house. Rankin also sold many "hearth" bricks and, in one case, 748 "column" bricks. Also during these same years, he actively sold bushels of lime. These entries raise questions as to where Rankin acquired the bricks and lime. Did he start a brick kiln on his farm? Or was he acting as a middleman and selling to his neighbors? The most confusing entry in this regard is one for the purchase of 4,085 bricks in 1847, presumably for the construction of his own house, built that same year. Why would he buy brick at the same time he was selling it? We can only speculate on the answers to these questions.

James Rankin's new house was a three-bay, two-story brick structure with a two-story Greek Revival portico (Figure 14). This stylish home reflected both his wealth and his awareness of popular archi-

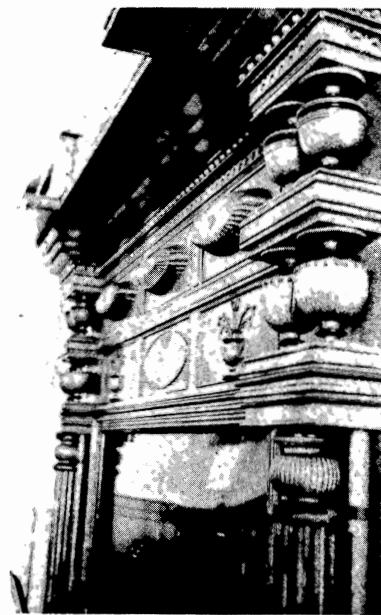


Figure 12: Seawright mantel, showing three-dimensional forms.



Figure 13: Mantel, 1st floor, west room, Seawright House. This example displays a more delicate design, still with a layered frieze.



Figure 14: James Rankin House, ca 1847,  
at Naked Creek.

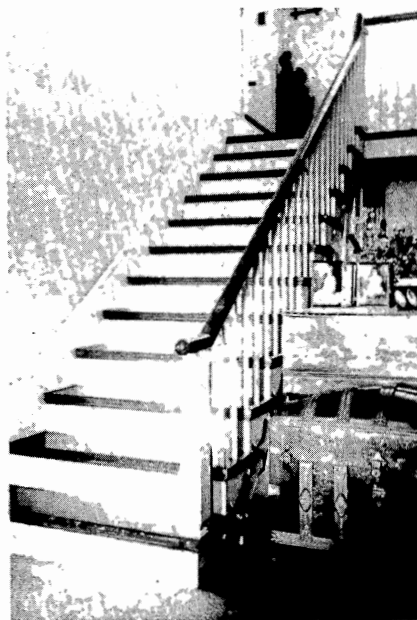


Figure 15: Stairwell at James Rankin House.

tectural styles. Indeed, Rankin's house established a new local model. A building contract discovered during the survey indicated that a local mason, Hugh Lynn, built a house identical to the James Rankin house later that same year. The contract reveals that Lynn wanted his house modeled almost entirely after Rankin's house and that he even employed the same carpenter, David S. Jones.<sup>14</sup> Another almost identical house was built in Burkettown at that same time by the Whitmore family. Lynn's building contract also confirmed that Rankin did not complete the carpentry and joinery work for his own house. Perhaps by this time his wealth allowed him to hire the work out to another builder. Family tradition maintains that Rankin still had input into the style of the interior woodwork which he wanted quite plain. According to these stories, Rankin did not like the stairwell that was built because it was too fancy, and he demanded that the workmen tear it down and build something simpler in its place (Figure 15).<sup>15</sup> The tax records reveal that Rankin's new dwelling was indeed a costly house, being valued at \$1,460 in 1848, the year after it was built.

Rankin died the following year, 1849, at the age of 55.<sup>16</sup> His inventory and sale, dated October 23, 1849, includes a long, impressive list of household furnishings for that day, many of which may have been made by Rankin. One page of the sale list reads like a list of tools needs for a well-equipped carpenter's and joiner's shop including mold-boards, mattocks, axes, rasps, auguers, molding planes, "tung and groove," saw set, squares, braces, saws, a work bench, a tool chest, and lots of plank, timber, and shingles. Although Rankin had stopped producing furniture or other joinery work, he had clearly left his shop intact. His account book provides much insight into his work, even though his career lasted only about a decade. When viewed with some of his surviving products as well as the other artifactual and documentary records, the account book has become valuable in illuminating the work and life of this early Augusta County builder.

## NOTES

<sup>1</sup>The author would be interested in uncovering more information such as builders' contracts or account books on local buildings. Please write in care of Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA 22807.

<sup>2</sup>Entry from James Rankin's account book.

<sup>3</sup>The author would like to extend special thanks to Kay Stout Wolfe, James Stout, and Josephine Dice for their help and cooperation with this study.

<sup>4</sup>See Evelyn Ownby, *What Does America Mean to Me* (MS, Staunton Public Library) for a history of the Rankin family.

<sup>5</sup>The shop building had become badly deteriorated by the 20th century and was razed.

<sup>6</sup>Several pieces of furniture belonging to descendants of James Rankin have been attributed to him through family tradition. See Figures 2 through 6.

<sup>7</sup>An article on the account book of another Virginia carpenter, Gustavus Sedon, shows that he, too, had many entries for window sash as well. See W. L. Whitwell and Lee W. Winborn, "The Sedon Journal" (*Roanoke Historical Society Journal*, X:1, pp. 1-27).

<sup>8</sup>At least, mantelpieces were not specified in his account book. More research still needs to be done on account books to determine whether certain items might be recorded in different ways than we expect.

<sup>9</sup>Searches through the tax records reveal that most houses of this period were probably valued below \$500; however, no study of house values has been completed in Augusta County to date. For research in Tidewater, Virginia, see Jeffrey O'Dell, *Chesterfield County: Early Architecture and Historic Sites*, (Chesterfield County, Virginia, 1983).

<sup>10</sup>The 1810 edition of this volume, published in Philadelphia, Richmond, and Lexington, Kentucky, shows identical designs for scroll stair brackets. Biddle's guide was apparently quite popular among Virginia builders in the early 19th century.

<sup>11</sup>See Edward Chappell, *Cultural Change in the Shenandoah Valley: Northern Augusta County Homes Before 1861*, (Masters Thesis, University of Virginia, 1977).

<sup>12</sup>Josephine Dice, a Rankin descendent, has the impression that Rankin gave up his woodworking for farming during the 1830s. Interview with Kay Stout Wolfe, September 1983.

<sup>13</sup>Augusta County Deed Books 60:499, 60:502, 63:33. The tax records show an increase of \$1,350 for new buildings on the 450-acre tract in 1840 when James Rankin and Michael Arehart purchased the property. In 1842, when Rankin acquired his 184-acre tract, the value of buildings was shown as \$1000, suggesting that the house built in 1840 was on Arehart's half of the farm, located in Rockingham County. The house presently located on Arehart's land, known as the Crawford place, dates stylistically to that period.

<sup>14</sup>The contract, dated 1847, states: "in order to dispense with all particular specifications it is hereby agreed and determined that James S. Rankin's house, lately undertaken by the said David S. Jones, shall be in all respects, as regards architectural plan and finish, the model of the said Hugh D. Lynn's."

<sup>15</sup>Interview with Kay Stout Wolfe, September 1983.

<sup>16</sup>His obituary states that:

We understood the day on which the deceased died was the day set for his marriage. The story that was set afloat about his having an engagement to be married on the day he died, or any other day . . . is untrue, and there is strong evidence that it was fabricated by a combination of scoundrels, during his illness . . . to prejudice the mind of an only child (a daughter), against her dying father and that father's friends . . . to prevent the aforesaid scoundrels from swindling the girl out of the estate.

Transcribed by Anne Covington Kidd, "Augusta County Obituaries," (*Augusta Historical Bulletin* 16:1, p. 64).



## MOUNT SIDNEY

By

Katherine Gentry Bushman

Mount Sidney, developed in 1826 by Hugh Glenn and Henry B. Roland, is located north of Staunton on the Valley Pike (U. S. 11), and just west of Interstate 81. Since the construction of the new highway, it is located in North River District instead of Middle River District. There are several stories regarding the origin of its name. Jos. A. Waddell, in *Annals of Augusta County, Virginia*, relates the tale of the three sons who were told to mount their horses: Mount Sidney, Mount Jackson, Mount Crawford. Mr. Hanson in his book on Virginia place names states that Charles Curry named it for Sir Philip Sidney. In view of the fact that Charles Curry was not born until 1858, this is not likely. Waddell also states that the term "mount" is one that was brought over from Ireland, since you find place names there preceded by the word "mount." No matter how it was named, Mount Sidney has been a village in Augusta County since 8 April 1826. On that date the first deed for a lot in the new town of Mount Sidney was made to Joseph Rankin, Jr.—lot #17—by Hugh Glenn. By 1829, the land tax book of Augusta County, District 2, shows the names of William Campbell, Josiah Cawthron, Joseph Coiner, John Deary, Hugh Glenn (owning 17 lots), James Gilbert, Nathaniel Hurst, Christian Landis, Sr., Christian Landis, Jr., Henry B. Roland (11 lots), Jacob M. Parsons, David Ross, Samuel Rankin, and Jonathan Sheetz. At that time, no lots had been sold on the west side of the road. Those were still held by Hugh Glenn and Henry B. Roland—from #25-#41.

On March 19, 1878, *The Staunton Spectator* printed the following account of the origin of Mount Sidney:

In 1812, when traveling from Harrisonburg to Staunton, one would follow the old road over which old Charley Bockett carried the first mail from Winchester to Staunton. Where Mt. Sidney is, or rather just below, Capt. Samuel Frame lived where the late Addison Hyde lived. Adjoining him below was one Roland, who owned the old Plow and Harrow Tavern. No one remembers where he came from or when. He had 4 sons: John (a cavalry officer on the north frontier), David, George and Henry B. Henry B. Roland succeeded Capt. Frame as commandant of the Cavalry company of the old 32nd Regiment which held its musters in October at old Peter Hanger's, the Willow Spout. Capt. Roland married Patsy Glenn, daughter of Hugh Glenn who then lived at the west side of what is now the village of Mt. Sidney. About 1828, he laid off and gave name to the village of Mt. Sidney. He operated a store for several years in the heart of the village. Capt. Roland studied medicine and removed to Indiana. Another store was operated by Michael Mauzy a few hundred yards west of the Plow and Harrow near the intersection of the Keezletown Road with the Valley Pike.



This is one of the older buildings in Mt. Sidney. In this building the Shumake-Johnson store was located. It was operated by Abner Shumake and Peter Johnson. According to records it was in operation from the late 1850s until the early 1890s.

*Picture courtesy of Ralph S. Caffman*

The original plat shows 41 lots, the main street, Washington, running north and south. Two cross streets named Bolivar and LaFayette run east and west. Another side street is named Marion. All names were for men who were champions of freedom. The plat shows two more cross streets unnamed. In 1826, Hugh Glenn sold 13 of the 24 lots on the east side of the main street (Washington). He retained lots 1 and 2 for himself. Like Robert McDowell, founder of Mercersville (Jennings Gap), Hugh Glenn went bankrupt in 1830. Born in 1775 in Augusta County, he was married 3 times: Elizabeth McCausland, Rebecca Turk Anderson, who were both of Augusta County. His third wife was Susan Taylor of Albemarle County, Virginia. It is from the tax records that the year of his death is determined—1833. He died intestate. Susan Taylor Glenn died after 1870 and before 1884, and was a resident of Mount Sidney.

The tax records of Mount Sidney in 1847 show that both sides of the main street were occupied. Lot owners were William Campbell, Josiah J. Cawthron, Mary Ann Cline, William Fisher of Kanawha, Forrer and Huddell of Page County, Hugh Glenn estate, William Gamble of Albemarle, David Link of Rockingham, Henry Markwood estate,

Edward G. Moorman (who was a doctor from Lynchburg), Mary Maphis, James Nelson, Jacob C. Roler, James E. Ross, Samuel Rankin, William Shumake, Alfred A. Sowers, Robert J. Smith of Richmond, George L. Sampson, Thomas P. Wilson, Mary and Emily White, and John Yates.

According to Nelson Fogle in his manuscript and pictorial history of Mount Sidney in 1967, in December 1829, the inhabitants asked for permission to hold a lottery to raise \$5,000 to build a market, town hall and other public buildings. How successful this endeavor was is not known. Deed Book 50, page 356, 29 December 1827, records the deed from Henry B. Roland and his wife, Patsy, to William Wilson (pastor of Old Stone Presbyterian Church), Michael Mauzy, David Ross, Samuel Harnsbarger, and H. B. Roland, trustees of Mt. Sidney Academy, part of lot #8, 70 feet wide and 111 feet long, where "the present academy stands." Deed Book 90, page 220, 10 April 1877, B. J. Craig, William



Mr. Jim Parrish was responsible for getting the water piped from the spring to the watering trough. The pipe came from a spring located on the land of Dr. William Crawford, to a springhouse now owned by Mr. McCoy Hill, south of his house and then to the watering trough. The old trough is gone, but there is still a trough there built by the State Highway Department when the highway was widened through the town. Mr. J. E. Shipplett supplied the town with water in 1931 piping it through the town.



Mt. Sidney School about 1894

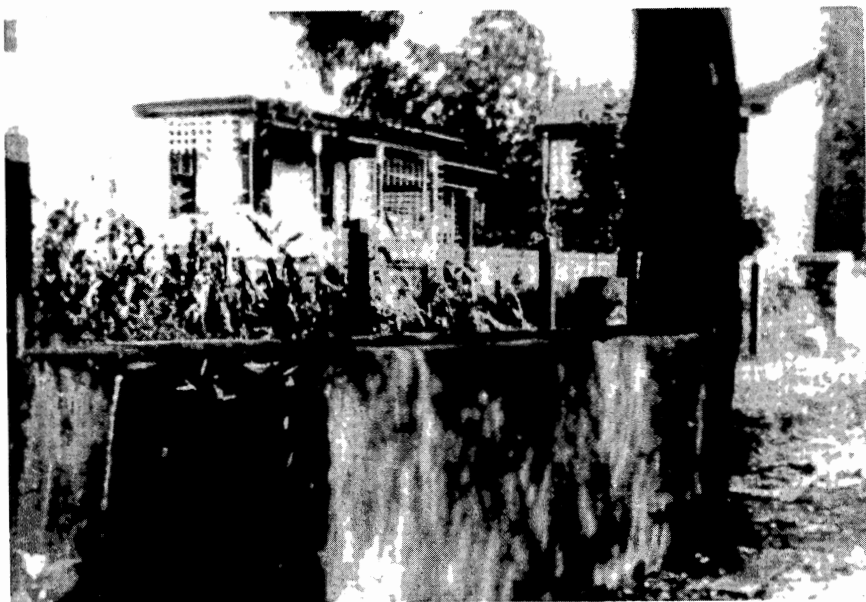
No record was found of when the first school was started in Mt. Sidney, but it was found in the court records that in 1829 a school stood near where Harold Wine's store now stands, on Lot 24. The brick school now standing was built in 1914, to replace the wooden school and was opened November 10, 1914. The first high school principal was Minor C. Miller. The Patrons League was organized in 1914 in the old building. The first graduation class was in 1916 and consisted of 2 boys and 2 girls. They were Mary O. Miller, Marie Click, Quinter Miller and William Raymond Johnson.

In the above class picture, Henry Coffman is in back with white shirt and brown necktie. Far right, front row is Edna Peters.

A. Hanger, Thomas P. Wilson, public school trustees of Middle River District, sold to William A. Bell the Mt. Sidney Academy ground, according to Code of Virginia 1873, since the "trustees of the school were long dead," Lot 8, 70 feet wide and 111 feet long. For location of lot 8, see the accompanying plat of Mount Sidney, recorded in Deed Book 109, page 125, Augusta County Clerk's office. These records prove that there was a school there as early as 1826.

Mount Sidney has been a post office since 1829. Proof of this is found in the article in the "Virginia Magazine of History and Biography," Volume 81, #1, January 1973, page 84, in an article by Virginus C. Hall, Jr., on post offices in Virginia from 1798-1859. Records show that from 1813-1827, the post office in the area was





The trough pictured above was the second trough to be built, and this is the one removed by the Highway Department.



The watering trough or spout, as it was known to many, was a landmark for a long time in Mt. Sidney. The water was piped from a spring west of Mt. Sidney at the foot of Sidney Hill. During the drought years, in the 1930s, some people received their entire supply of water here. Also many of the residents owned a cow or horse at that time and frequently watered their livestock here at the old wooden trough.

"Plow and Harrow." This was a tavern near the intersection of the Valley Pike and the Keezletown Road. In March, 1780, John McMahon, Sr., was granted a license to keep an ordinary. In October 1807, Deborah McMahan, widow of John McMahan, and her son, William and wife Rebecca, sold to George Rowland of Rockingham County, 330 acres, known as the Plow and Harrow tract. In 1810, George Roland and Mary, his wife, sold to Michael Mauzy, 181 acres, part of the 330 acres, with a covenant preventing Mauzy from having a tavern on the tract. In 1817, the Rolands sold 163 acres of the Plow and Harrow to Michael Mauzy. It is possible to assume that the people of Mount Sidney still obtained their mail at Plow and Harrow from 1827-1829, while there was application to change the name to Mount Sidney.

The tax records in 1817 show that there were four merchants in the Fort Defiance-Mount Sidney area: Michael Mauzy, Addison Hyde, James Allen (owned an ordinary), and Peter Hanger (owned an ordinary.) By 1824, the names of Rodham Kemper and Hugh Glenn are listed as merchants.

The owners of property in Mount Sidney in 1890 were as follows:

Lot #

- 4 Jos. F. Bowman
- 5 1/3 of 8 Jos. F. Bowman
- 6 Bowman and Campbell
- 9 Joseph Bowles
- 1/3 of 29 Dr. Wm. H. Crawford
- 30 2/3 of 8 J. J. Cauthron estate
- 18 Mary A. (Watson) Cline
- 33 1/2 of 34 Susan M. DePriest
- 37 Jno. J. Flavin
- 16 J. S. & W. T. Grooms
- 2/3 of 9 Josephine M. Harper
- 12 Wm. H. Johnson
- 11 Wm. Peter Johnson
- 19 Millard F. Johnson
- 27 Annie R. Keran estate
- 28 John E. Mason estate
- 32 George Miller & John Montgomery
- 1/2 34 Mary L. Moorman, W. H. Moorman, Miller Moorman
- 35



## IN MEMORIAM

Miss Annie Lee Crawford  
\*Mrs. Dorothy Rodes Holden  
Mr. Lucius F. Shelburne

\*Charter member

## NEW MEMBERS

(since April, 1983)

Mrs. Edna K. Bush, St. Petersburg, Florida  
Mr. & Mrs. Vernon C. Christian, Burbank, California  
Mr. Dennis W. Emmers, Charlottesville, Virginia  
Fishersville Ruritan Club, Fishersville, Virginia  
Mrs. Joseph B. Graham, Sr., Goshen, Virginia  
Mrs. Irving M. Kodel, Tigard, Oregon  
Mr. Gerald L. Livick, Staunton, Virginia  
Mr. John W. McNair, Jr., Waynesboro, Virginia  
Miss G. Rosamund Marchant, Staunton, Virginia

## Presidents of the Augusta County Historical Society

\*Dr. Richard P. Bell, 1964-1966  
\*Harry Lee Nash, Jr., 1966-1967  
\*Dr. Marshall M. Brice, 1967-1968  
\*Dr. James Sprunt, 1968-1970  
\*Richard M. Hamrick, Jr., 1970-1972  
†Joseph B. Yount III, 1972-1974  
\*Mrs. William Bushman, 1974-1976  
\*John M. Dunlap, Jr., 1976-1977  
Miss Mary Kathryn Blackwell, 1977-1979  
Mrs. Harry D. Hevener, 1979-1981  
\*John M. McChesney, Jr., 1981-1983

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\*denotes Charter Member of Society

†denotes Honorary Charter Member

